

CONNECTICUT EMS VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE, A COMMITTEE OF THE CT EMS ADVISORY BOARD

Approved Minutes for January 8, 2009 Approved Connecticut State Police Academy 285 Preston Avenue Meriden, Ct

Attendance: Angell. D, Corrigan. R, Gelati. S, Kosciusko, S, McKeon. R, Paretzky, J., Stone, A. Guests: Wright, S., Brown, K (CT OEMS)

Chair- review the proposed budget cuts to DP/OEMS

- 1) Eliminate Equipment /Training Grant Program
- 2) Cut training budget for practical testing by \$48,171 from \$68,000
- 3) Eliminate the independent EMS Regional Councils and replace them with five State employees and support staff, for a projected cost savings to Connecticut of \$340,944.

Discussion followed with votes on the proposed budget cuts:

- 1) Reduce the Equipment Training Grant program to \$50,000: Approved
- 2) No cuts should be made in the Training budget: Approved
- 3) Support the existing Regional Councils as they are: Approved Review of proposed legislation made by the Volunteer Committee:

Review of proposed legislation made by the Volunteer Committee:

- 1) An Act to fund a state-wide EMS operators training program, request \$100,000- Approved to continue to work on getting this passed.
- 2) An act to fund an independent study of CT OEMS, EMS, recruitment, training, initial certification and retention of EMS personnel, request \$150,000- Approved to continue to work on getting this passed.
3. An act to increase the annual funding for the Equipment! Training Grant program to \$150, 000-discussion followed- The Equipment Grant is in legislation now, we need to request the level of funding we want to DPH. With the proposed budget cuts we will request the program not be eliminated but the fund be set at \$50,000. for the next budget year: Approved

The Chair spoke about the EMS-C looking for input from the Volunteers for ideas for pediatric education for a conference next year. EMS-C wants to hear about what we would like to see. Contact Jay your suggestions.

The DOJ Public Safety Officer's Benefit (PSOB) as of 10/1/2008 is \$315,746 for death in the line of duty. Members should access this program on line to review all the parts of it. Cover sheet distributed.

The Advisory Board is assisting with EMS awards Nancy Mayeda-Brescia has agreed to work on this project. Nancy has a new short form for nominations. She can be reached at: nancB23@aol.com.

Review of the CT EM8\Advisory Board draft minutes for December 10, 2008-minutes distributed.

CEMSMAC has approved the spinal stabilization for confined space rescue by Fire Fighters at the MRT level. Education and Training Committee is working on lesson plans.

Discussion followed about allowing all MRT's to be trained in spinal stabilization- Approved CT EMS Conference dates: March 18-19 workshops, March 20-21 conference in Cromwell

Discussion about Skip Kosciusko's draft letter and Charles Jaskiewicz letter to State Legislators about issues with EMS in Connecticut.

Skips draft letter was about the potential loss of EMS Volunteers if the State adopts the proposed National Scope of Practice. By adding more required training hours, services will not be able to perform their functions since fewer volunteers will come into the system.

Skip also pointed out that current re-certifications should be three years for all levels.

The Chair pointed out that the Volunteer Committee suggested to the Regulations Review Committee to make all certification for three years. The Chair will follow -up to see the status of our request.

Charles Jaskiewicz addressed problems with recent state practical where there was no equipment for the students to use, and problems with the state testing with KED's

Both letters were addressed to Legislators.

The Chair pointed out that the Legislative Committee, A Committee of the CT EMS Advisory Board, was established to provide a vehicle to assure a unified voice in the legislative arena. Legislation is best changed with support from all the parties; the Advisory Board is the central body to bring together everyone to accomplish improvements in EMS. Each member of the Volunteer Committee is always free to speak to legislators, but for EMS issues it would be better to use the system in place to join together as a group to be successful.

The Chair forwarded both letters to the Advisory Board and the Legislative Committee

CT OEMS reports for November and December, 2008 distributed

Kevin Brown gave his report and discussion followed about the National Scope of Practice. Discussions of the Scope and the impact on the educational level have begun and will continue for at least the next 6 to 18 months. Kevin reported that the State is looking at the Scope and no discussion has been made to adopt it at this time, it's an on going review of the program, as it is developed.

Kevin reported that he had not heard about the equipment problems reported by Charles Jaskiewicz and that he would look into the situation

The Chair reported that a student in Westport that needed to remediate for the practical told of a station with no collar, he was told to make-believe one was there.

Next Meeting: March 12, 2009 at Ellington Volunteer EMS 41 Maple Street Ellington CT 860870-3170 6:30- 7 PM
Light refreshments 7-9 PM meeting

2009 meeting schedule locations to be announced May 14, June 11, September 10 and November 12

Jay B. Paretzky Chair CT EMS Volunteer Committee, A Committee of the CT EMS Advisory Board 203 247-9883